

WEEK 4
LESSON GUIDE



BIG IDEA

I believe God's words are true.

BIBLE

Jesus Rejected at Nazareth:
Luke 4:14–30

ABOUT THIS WEEK

A compass is an important tool when you camp because it always points north, which means you can find your way whenever you go camping. This week, we'll hear about how Jesus was rejected as God's son in his hometown. Jesus shows us how God's words always point to the truth, so whenever we have questions, we can say, "**I believe God's words are true.**"

WELCOME TIME

ACTIVITY | To Follow Or Not?

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, gather the kids in a circle or a designated play area. Choose a leader to stand in the center of the circle. The leader will make facial expressions, movements, actions, silly noises, or say something. Kids will mirror the leader exactly. Then, play a second round where they kids have to try not to follow the leader.
- When we follow someone, we pay attention to them, do what they do, and say what they say. Jesus had a lot of followers who wanted to learn from him.
- But some people did not want to follow Jesus at all. Today's Bible story is about a time when some people got mad at Jesus for saying who he really was.

ACTIVITY | True Path

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** For this activity, set up a simple path on the ground using [reflective tape](#). Turn off the lights or dim them, and have kids take turns using a small flashlight to shine on the path to follow it from beginning to end.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Handing flashlights to toddlers might not end well. Instead, roll up some pieces of paper and tape them loosely with masking tape for the toddlers to peel off. Talk about how Jesus read from a Bible that looked like a scroll.
- **Where can we find God's words?** In the Bible! It's like a light that guides us on our path when it's dark. We will always know what's true when we follow God's words.
- In today's Bible story, we'll hear about how Jesus only spoke what was true.

STORY TIME

SCRIPTURE | Luke 4:14–30 (Jesus Rejected at Nazareth)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Teach this Scripture passage by reading from a preschool-friendly Bible translation, Bible

storybook, or using the talking points provided below! Set up a campfire circle with an [inflatable campfire](#). The storyteller should dress like they've been camping.

✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Offer toddlers an opportunity to feel the covers of different types of Bibles. Be sure to offer Bibles that the toddlers can crinkle and carry around. Toddlers can begin to hold a Bible to start learning that the Bible is for them, too ... not just grown-ups!

- Hey, campers! I can't believe it, but it's our last campfire story time. Gather around to hear another amazing story about Jesus.
- Once upon a time, in a little village, there was a special place called a "synagogue." A synagogue is sort of like our church. People came to the synagogue to learn about God.
- **Show me what you look like when you are paying close attention!**
- One day, the synagogue had a special teacher—Jesus! The people were very excited to see him because they had heard wonderful things about him. Jesus was kind and loving, and his words were filled with truth.
- Jesus stood in front of everyone, and they all gathered around to listen. He opened a scroll that contained Scripture—God's words!
- **Let's pretend to unroll a scroll together.** Place your fists together, fingers of one hand on top of the other, and slowly pull your fists apart.
- The Scripture that Jesus read talked about how God cares about people who are hurting and sad. God would send someone to help them and to show them God's love.
- **Who do you think that is?** Jesus!
- Most of the people were happy to hear Jesus and believed his words.
- **Show me your happiest happy face!**
- But there were a few people who didn't understand. They thought Jesus was just an ordinary person, just like them. How could God send him? They didn't believe his words and became angry.
- **Ooh, now show me an angry face!**
- Jesus wanted everyone to know that God sent him to love everyone and help everyone know God. But the people who did not believe this message chased Jesus out of town.
- They missed out on getting to learn from God's own son, Jesus. By not listening to Jesus, they couldn't hear more of God's true words.

BIG IDEA | I believe God's words are true.

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Hide each of the words of the Big Idea taped to a random camping-related item in a backpack, such as a water bottle, flashlight, or camp snacks. Invite one kid at a time to pull out an item revealing the word. Then have a leader put the words in order and prompt kids to repeat back the Big Idea using the hand motions listed below.
- Well, I sure will miss camping with you all each week, but I won't miss carrying around this heavy bag! Let's see what we've got in here today.
- Let's put these words in order and form today's Big Idea.
 - I (point to self)
 - believe (fist pump the air)
 - God's words (open your hands like you're opening a book)
 - are true (thumbs up or [ASL for "true"](#))

VIDEO | Camp Believe It, Episode 4

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Play this week's episode of [Cali's World](#).

ACTIVITY | Happy Or Angry

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Prepare twenty plates by drawing a happy face on one side and an [angry face](#) on the other

side. It might be helpful to select plates with different colors on each side to make this activity easier. Start all the plates out on the angry side. Have two kids flip over all the plates to the happy side. As they do this, have a leader flip the happy faces back over. Keep going until time's up. See how many faces remained happy. Repeat with a new pair of kids until everyone has had a chance to play.

✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Give one plate to each toddler and have them put the plate to their face to show happy and angry faces! Say phrases like "Jesus makes me happy" or "I'm happy to learn about God."

- Jesus being sent by God to earth was the best news. Jesus would connect people to God and help them be forgiven of their sins. But even this really good and true news was not believed by all.
- Many people were happy to learn from Jesus, but some were angry! They were angry because they didn't believe what you and I believed.
- **What do we believe? I believe God's words are true.**

PRAYER

- Dear God, what you say is always true. Help me to always believe in you. Amen.

SHARING TIME

SNACK | Scroll Roll-Up

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Give each kid a slice of whole-grain bread or flatbread. Spread a small amount of peanut butter (or nut-free spread) or cream cheese on the bread. Help the kids roll up the bread, creating a scroll-like shape.
- ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Have the snacks rolled up and ready for the toddlers as they are not able to create them independently.
- This snack looks like a synagogue scroll like the one in the Bible story. **What is your favorite part of church?**

ACTIVITY | Circle Time

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Roll up a piece of paper from both ends and tie it together with a length of ribbon. Pass the "scroll" around as you review these questions together.
- **Where did Jesus go in the story?** To the synagogue.
- **What did Jesus do in the synagogue?** He read from a scroll that had God's words.
- **Was everyone happy to hear Jesus?** Not everyone. Some people were angry.
- **What did the angry people do to Jesus?** They chased him out of town.
- **Are God's words true?** Yes!
- Let's say our Big Idea together: **I believe God's words are true.**

ACTIVITY | Good News Scrolls

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print out copies of the [printable](#) and distribute one to each kid. Have them draw pictures of things they learned about Jesus or write the Big Idea (or a simple phrase like "I love Jesus!"). Afterward, help them roll up the printable and secure it closed with a pipe cleaner or [elastic band](#) acting as a ribbon.
- Jesus used God's words in the synagogue. We can always listen to and share God's words.
- Let's create our own special scrolls just like we heard about in the Bible story to help us remember: **I believe God's words are true!**

MEMORY VERSE | John 6:69 (NIV)

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Help kids learn this month's memory verse by setting the words (including the Scripture

reference) to the tune of "Rain, Rain, Go Away." You can also have kids repeat the verse after you in small chunks, say them using silly voices, or create simple hand motions for keywords.

- **"We have come to believe and to know that you are the Holy One of God."**

PLAY TIME

ACTIVITY | Coloring Page

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Print and distribute [the coloring page](#) along with crayons or markers. You can review today's Bible story, Big Idea, and memory verse as the kids color.

ACTIVITY | Paper Sensory Bin

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Create a paper texture sensory table using various types of paper with different textures (smooth, rough, bumpy, or crinkly), small baskets or containers for kids to put paper in, and safety scissors so kids can cut paper.

ACTIVITY | Paper Chain Station

- **INSTRUCTIONS:** Help kids create their own paper chains using various colors of construction paper already cut into strips and glue sticks or glue dots.
 - ✂ **TODDLER HACK:** Toddlers will enjoy tearing paper instead of creating with it. Alternatively, you can simply offer toddlers some foam bath letters like [these](#) to play with in a bowl. Talk about how Jesus read the words from the Bible.